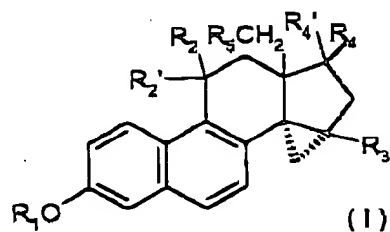


**In the Claims:**

Please cancel claims 16 to 19 without prejudice. No other claim changes are being made, but the remaining unchanged claims are listed herein below:

Claims 1 to 9 (previously canceled).

10(previously added). An equilenin derivative of formula I:



wherein

R<sub>1</sub> denotes a hydrogen atom, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>5</sub>-alkyl group, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>5</sub>-acyl group or a benzoyl group,

R<sub>2</sub> denotes a hydrogen atom and R'<sub>2</sub> denotes a fluorine atom, a hydroxyl group or a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>5</sub>-acyloxy group or R<sub>2</sub> and R'<sub>2</sub> together denote an oxo group,

R<sub>3</sub> denotes a hydrogen atom or a methyl group,

$R_4$  denotes a hydrogen atom and  $R'_4$  denotes a hydroxyl group or a  $C_1$ - $C_{11}$ -acyloxy group or  $R_4$  and  $R'_4$  together denote an oxo group, a methylene group, a halomethylene group or a dihalomethylene group and

$R_5$  denotes a hydrogen atom or a methyl group.

11(previously added). The equilenin derivative as defined in claim 10, wherein said  $R_5$  is said hydrogen.

12(previously added). An equilenin derivative selected from the group consisting of

14 $\alpha$ ,15 $\alpha$ -methylenestra-1, 3, 5(10),6,8-pentaene-3, 11 $\beta$ ,17 $\beta$ -triol,

11 $\beta$ ,17 $\beta$ -dihydroxy-14 $\alpha$ ,15 $\alpha$ -methylenestra-1, 3, 5(10),6,8-pentaene-3-yl benzoate,

11 $\beta$ ,17 $\beta$ -dihydroxy-14 $\alpha$ ,15 $\alpha$ -methylenestra-1, 3, 5(10),6,8-pentaene-3-yl propionate,

3,11 $\beta$ -dihydroxy-14 $\alpha$ ,15 $\alpha$ -methylenestra-1, 3, 5(10),6,8-pentaene-17 $\beta$ -yl decanoate,

3,11 $\beta$ -dihydroxy-14 $\alpha$ ,15 $\alpha$ -methylenestra-1, 3, 5(10),6,8-pentaene-17-one,

3-methoxy-14 $\alpha$ ,15 $\alpha$ -methylenestra-1, 3, 5(10),6,8-pentaene-11 $\alpha$ ,17 $\beta$ -  
diyl diacetate,

15 $\beta$ -methyl-14 $\alpha$ ,15 $\alpha$ -methylenestra-1, 3, 5(10),6,8-pentaene-  
3,11 $\beta$ ,17 $\beta$ -triol,

11 $\beta$ -fluoro-14 $\alpha$ ,15 $\alpha$ -methylenestra-1, 3, 5(10),6,8-pentaene-3,17 $\beta$ -  
diol,

3,17 $\beta$ -dihydroxy-14 $\alpha$ ,15 $\alpha$ -methylenestra-1, 3, 5(10),6,8-pentaene-11-  
one,

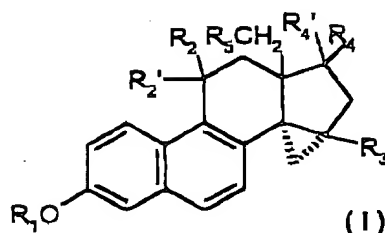
3-methoxy-14 $\alpha$ ,15 $\alpha$ -methylenestra-1, 3, 5(10),6,8-pentaene-  
11 $\alpha$ ,17 $\alpha$ -diyl diacetate,

3-methoxy-14 $\alpha$ ,15 $\alpha$ -methylen-11-oxoestra-1, 3, 5(10),6,8-pentaene-  
17 $\alpha$ -yl acetate,

11 $\beta$ -hydroxy-17,17-difluoromethylene-14 $\alpha$ ,15 $\alpha$ -methylenestra-1, 3,  
5(10),6,8-pentaene-3-yl benzoate and

14 $\alpha$ ,15 $\alpha$ -methylene-17,17-bis-methyleneestra-1,3,5(10),6,8-  
pentaene-3,11 $\alpha$ -diol.

13(previously added). A method of making an equilenin derivative of formula I:



wherein

$R_1$  denotes a hydrogen atom, a  $C_1$ - $C_5$ -alkyl group, a  $C_1$ - $C_5$ -acyl group or a benzoyl group,

$R_2$  denotes a hydrogen atom and  $R'_2$  denotes a fluorine atom, a hydroxyl group or a  $C_1$ - $C_5$ -acyloxy group or  $R_2$  and  $R'_2$  together denote an oxo group,

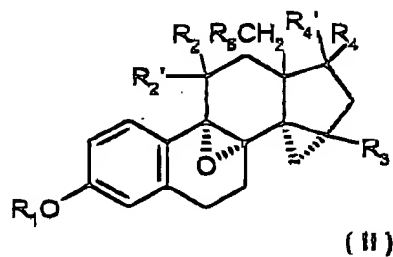
$R_3$  denotes a hydrogen atom or a methyl group,

$R_4$  denotes a hydrogen atom and  $R'_4$  denotes a hydroxyl group or a  $C_1$ - $C_{11}$ -acyloxy group or  $R_4$  and  $R'_4$  together denote an oxo group, a methylene group, a halomethylene group or a dihalomethylene group and

$R_5$  denotes a hydrogen atom or a methyl group;

said method comprising the steps of:

a) reacting diphosphorus tetraiodide in the presence of pyridine with a compound to formula II:



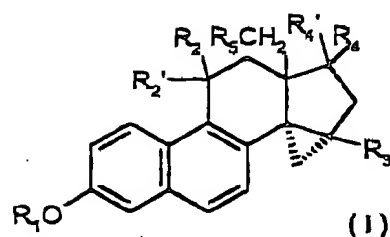
to form an intermediate product, and

b) converting the intermediate product to said equilenin derivative of said formula I.

14(previously added). A pharmaceutical composition comprising

at least one member selected from the group consisting of pharmaceutically compatible agents and carriers; and

at least one equilenin derivative of formula I:



wherein

$R_1$  denotes a hydrogen atom, a  $C_1$ - $C_5$ -alkyl group, a  $C_1$ - $C_5$ -acyl group or a benzoyl group,

$R_2$  denotes a hydrogen atom and  $R'_2$  denotes a fluorine atom, a hydroxyl group or a  $C_1$ - $C_5$ -acyloxy group or  $R_2$  and  $R'_2$  together denote an oxo group,

$R_3$  denotes a hydrogen atom or a methyl group,

$R_4$  denotes a hydrogen atom and  $R'_4$  denotes a hydroxyl group or a  $C_1$ - $C_{11}$ -acyloxy group or  $R_4$  and  $R'_4$  together denote an oxo group, a methylene group, a halomethylene group or a dihalomethylene group and

$R_5$  denotes a hydrogen atom or a methyl group.

15(previously added). A pharmaceutical composition comprising  
at least one member selected from the group consisting of  
pharmaceutically compatible agents and carriers; and  
at least one equilenin derivative selected from the group  
consisting of:

14 $\alpha$ ,15 $\alpha$ -methylenestra-1, 3, 5(10),6,8-pentaene-3, 11 $\beta$ ,17 $\beta$ -triol,  
11 $\beta$ ,17 $\beta$ -dihydroxy-14 $\alpha$ ,15 $\alpha$ -methylenestra-1, 3, 5(10),6,8-pentaene-  
3-yl benzoate,  
11 $\beta$ ,17 $\beta$ -dihydroxy-14 $\alpha$ ,15 $\alpha$ -methylenestra-1, 3, 5(10),6,8-pentaene-  
3-yl propionate,  
3,11 $\beta$ -dihydroxy-14 $\alpha$ ,15 $\alpha$ -methylenestra-1, 3, 5(10),6,8-pentaene-  
17 $\beta$ -yl decanoate,  
3,11 $\beta$ -dihydroxy-14 $\alpha$ ,15 $\alpha$ -methylenestra-1, 3, 5(10),6,8-pentaene-17-  
one,  
3-methoxy-14 $\alpha$ ,15 $\alpha$ -methylenestra-1, 3, 5(10),6,8-pentaene-11 $\alpha$ ,17 $\beta$ -  
diyl diacetate,  
15 $\beta$ -methyl-14 $\alpha$ ,15 $\alpha$ -methylenestra-1, 3, 5(10),6,8-pentaene-  
3,11 $\beta$ ,17 $\beta$ -triol,

11 $\beta$ -fluoro-14 $\alpha$ ,15 $\alpha$ -methylenestra-1, 3, 5(10),6,8-pentaene-3,17 $\beta$ -diol,

3,17 $\beta$ -dihydroxy-14 $\alpha$ ,15 $\alpha$ -methylenestra-1, 3, 5(10),6,8-pentaene-11-one,

3-methoxy-14 $\alpha$ ,15 $\alpha$ -methylenestra-1, 3, 5(10),6,8-pentaene-11 $\alpha$ ,17 $\alpha$ -diyl diacetate,

3-methoxy-14 $\alpha$ ,15 $\alpha$ -methylen-11-oxoestra-1, 3, 5(10),6,8-pentaene-17 $\alpha$ -yl acetate,

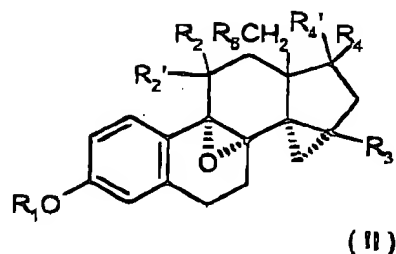
11 $\beta$ -hydroxy-17,17-difluoromethylene-14 $\alpha$ ,15 $\alpha$ -methylenestra-1, 3, 5(10),6,8-pentaene-3-yl benzoate and

14 $\alpha$ ,15 $\alpha$ -methylene-17,17-bis-methyleneestra-1,3,5(10),6,8-pentaene-3,11 $\alpha$ -diol.

Claims 16 to 19 (canceled).



20(previously added). A cyclopropano steroid of formula II:



wherein

$R_1$  denotes a hydrogen atom, a  $C_1$ - $C_5$ -alkyl group, a  $C_1$ - $C_5$ -acyl group or a benzoyl group,

$R_2$  denotes a hydrogen atom and  $R'_2$  denotes a fluorine atom, a hydroxyl group or a  $C_1$ - $C_5$ -acyloxy group or  $R_2$  and  $R'_2$  together denote an oxo group,

$R_3$  denotes a hydrogen atom or a methyl group,

$R_4$  denotes a hydrogen atom and  $R'_4$  denotes a hydroxyl group or a  $C_1$ - $C_{11}$ -acyloxy group or  $R_4$  and  $R'_4$  together denote an oxo group, a methylene group, a halomethylene group or a dihalomethylene group and

$R_5$  denotes a hydrogen atom or a methyl group.

21(previously added). A cyclopropano steroid selected from the group consisting of

11 $\alpha$ -hydroxy-3-methoxy-14 $\alpha$ ,15 $\alpha$ -methylene-8 $\alpha$ ,9 $\alpha$ -oxidoestra-1,3,5(10)-trien-17 $\alpha$ -yl acetate, 3-methoxy-14 $\alpha$ ,15 $\alpha$ -methylene-8 $\alpha$ ,9 $\alpha$ -oxidoestra-1,3,5(10)-trien-11 $\alpha$ ,17 $\alpha$ -diyl diacetate and 3-methoxy-11 $\alpha$ -hydroxy-8 $\alpha$ ,9 $\alpha$ -oxido-14 $\alpha$ ,15 $\alpha$ -methylenestra-1,3,5(10)-trien-17 $\beta$ -yl acetate.